

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION
REQUIREMENT DATED JUNE 15, 2004

Appln. No. 09/998,880

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July 14, 2004

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph on page 17, beginning at line 12, as follows:

A biodegradable non-tubular embodiment 42 of the supported cell cultivation lattice according to the invention is shown in Figure 5. Lattice 42 comprises resilient filamentary members 14 intermeshed with flexible filamentary members 22 to form a flexible membrane 44 which may be shaped to match a particular contour. The filamentary members may be interlaced by weaving, knitting or braiding to form interstices ~~46~~ 26 which promote the growth of cells in a substantially continuous, two-dimensional array throughout the supported lattice 42. Preferably, the filaments comprise biodegradable material such as polyglycolic acid, polylactic acid, hydroxyacetic acid or combinations thereof to control the rate of degradation when in use.